

Lodge Farm.
Snitterfield.
Stratford on Avon.

1859
My dear Mr Garrison,

Although ~~my~~ name will be quite a strange one to you, I feel as if I had quite a family claim on you for the sake of the love and veneration in which your name has always been held in my old home, and also ~~because~~ a personal claim, because when you were in Ireland long ago I believe I was made known to you by my dear Father John R. Neill. So although that is so long ago that I do not retain

any very vivid recollection of it
and I have no doubt you have
forgotten all about me. I want to
impress the claim upon your
attention now and to ask you if you
are at any time during your stay
in England in this classic
region, please to make my new
home your resting place. I know
of your plans for the employment
of your time dear Mr Garrison, from
your own letter to my Father, &
that I also know how limited your
time in England^{is}, but still if
you are "doing" England you
will be likely not to leave

Stratford on Avon & Warwick
"indone", and upon that I ground
my hopes of seeing you. It
would be nice if my dear Father
and you could meet here.

My husband is a farmer and
we could show you a real English
farm, which is something, but
our term of being here I fear
ends with September so unless
you were in our neighbourhood
before the end of that month
I fear we might not be here to offer
you house room, although I believe
we should till the end of October.
We have greatly rejoiced dear

Mr Garrison to see that you and
in you the noble cause to which
your life has been devoted are
being honored now! It is a
glorious thing for a man to
have fought the good fight and
seen the course finished during
his own lifetime, and it is a boon
to be very thankful for.

The enclosed sad announcement
has filled us with sorrow, perhaps
you have heard of it before; dear
Aunt had a short illness and
passed easily.

Dear Mr Garrison I fear you will

think that this letter requires
an answer, but I want you
please to understand that your
own presence if you can come
to us for a night or two will
be ~~all~~ the answer I want, and
if you can not come it will
be because you have no time,
in which case you have also
no time for writing, so please
do not think of it.

I hope your health will continue
to improve.

Your very affectionate young friend
Annie (Neill) Hollins.

July 15th
1867-

I.O.

We live 4 miles from Stratford
to 6 from Warwick, and the best
way to come from London is to Warwick.

Wm. Howard (raily) Mellors,
Stratford-on-Avon,
July 15, 1867.